

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed February 5, 2003. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-4, and 6-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-4 and 6-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,636,942 issued to Chen et al. ("Chen") in view of International Application No. PCT/US89/05440 issued to Van Nostrand et al. ("Van Nostrand"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and contends that the Examiner has not met the burden of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness.

Applicants reiterate the arguments set forth in the previously filed Response to the Office Action.

Chen discloses a computer vector multiprocessing control. As discussed in the previous response, Chen does not disclose storage of real-time audio data associated with audio channels.

Van Nostrand discloses a method and apparatus for handling high speed data. Video data are written into two banks of memory. Each bank is further divided into odd and even. Continuous data stream can be written into these two banks without interruption. Each of the memory arrays within each bank can be a video random access memory (VRAM). Memory arrays in bank A and bank B include shift registers (Van Nostrand, page 3). Van Nostrand merely discloses one stream of video data. A control circuit automatically selects odd/even pixel data to write to memory. The stream of video data of odd and even pixels are first routed to shift registers within one bank, bank A. Only when bank A has been filled, the stream of video data is shifted to bank B (Van Nostrand, page 7).

The combination of Chen in view of Van Nostrand would teach away from the claimed invention in that it would teach or describe a computer vector multiprocessing with a control circuit provided to direct even data to one group of memory arrays within a bank and odd data to another group within that bank, and to switch the data stream between the banks.

Chen and Van Nostrand, taken alone or in any combination, does not disclose, suggest, or render obvious: (1) a plurality of memory banks having two memory banks accessible to first and

second processors, and (2) storing subsets of audio data in the memory banks and the subsets corresponding to different groups of audio channels. There is no motivation to combine Chen and Van Nostrand because neither of them addresses the problem of memory allocation for real time audio processing. There is no teaching or suggestion that audio data from audio channels, plurality of memory banks, and storing subsets of audio data corresponding to different groups of audio channels are present. Chen, read as a whole, does not suggest the desirability of memory allocation by storing subsets of audio data corresponding to different groups of audio channels.

The Examiner stated that Van Nostrand disclosed using subsets corresponding to different groups of data channels (Office Action, page 3). Applicants respectfully disagree. Van Nostrand merely discloses a technique to handle high speed data from a single source of image (Van Nostrand, page 4, lines 20-29). Van Nostrand, therefore, differs from the claimed invention in at least two aspects: (1) Van Nostrand does not disclose different groups of channels, only digitized images; and (2) The data stream is for image data, not corresponding to audio data. The use of Video RAM (VRAM) is only suitable for pixel data, or image data.

Therefore, Applicants believe that independent claims 3, 6 and their respective dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited prior art references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.


CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date